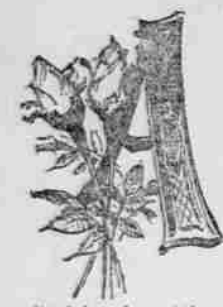


HOME, FIRESIDE AND KITCHEN.

The Various Uses of and Many Novelties in Linen—Useful Hints for Homes.

The Family Scrap Book—Many Useful Suggestions for House, Home, Kitchen and Sick Room.



PRETTY little bit of bric-a-brac easily made, says the New York Sun, is an inexpensive rug decorated with broad silk in dainty coloring. A piece of silk twice as long as the rug as high and wide enough to reach well under it, is filled with dainty lace at the top and has a casing at the top and bottom through which a small elastic cord is run. The cover is smoothly covered with the silk and finished with a bow, and the rug thus decked and filled with sweet pot pourri is a welcome gift to any girl, woman, and some men might not object to it on a big bureau where there was room.

REAL USES OF LINEN.

Dainty Designs in Finger Bowl Dolles and Luncheon Cloths.

The world is full of housekeepers who think that there is no material for sheets and pillow cases comparable to linen. They don't always have it, to be sure, because it is expensive, but they always covet it, and finger the shining broadcloth lovingly and wonder if the time will ever come when all these things shall be added unto them. But the truth about linen is that it is not the ideal dressing for beds at all. It is cold and slippery, and causes a sensitive person the dream of sleeping on an iceberg, which does not mean for an occasional experience, like a sea voyage, but which falls on too frequent repetition. Besides that, it wrinkles and tumbles in spite of its heavy body, much more than cotton does. For outside wear, however, use a most slowly and unvarying appearance. Nobody recommends linen for body wear. Its firm texture and hard surface make it wholly non-absorbent; it allows the body to become chilled by refusing the perspiration, and so has been known to bring on serious illness. For outside wear, however, linen may be tolerated as clothing, but nowhere else.

Where, however, it is at its most useful and best is in household uses. For table service, for the toilet and for minor ornamental details, it is simply invaluable—the smoothness of texture, its brilliancy, white laundry, even, is a thing to be desired. Its freshness makes it the one fabric bit to drape the dining table, and to use in the toilet, while its suitability for outside work decoration makes it admirable for all kinds of fancy work. And here it is rightfully used, but to wear next to the skin and sleep in—no.

NOVELTIES IN TABLE LINEN.
When dolles are used as covers for a polished table, if they are fringed, they should be at least sixteen inches square. The finger bowl dolles are twelve inches square. A novelty for the latter is made of the sheerest linen lawn, and is in the form of a scarf, with drawn work or embroidered ends. It is caught up in the middle where the bowl is placed, and the ends hang together over the edge of the plate. Dolles in flower shapes, roses, poppies, and daisies, buttonhole at the edge, are popular. For ice cream, there are dolles in drawn work, of circular shape, and of the consistency of cowbells, so exquisitely are they worked. Others are of lawn, with lace stitches set in circles within the round dolle, giving the effect of wheels within wheels.

A rosebud luncheon cloth is of the finest lawn, embroidered with wild roses, the sweet briar of country lanes. On one side has settled down a flight of butterflies in varying sizes. The insects are cut from lawn and worked in gold, their bodies being fastened to the tray cloth, but the wings are fluttering loose. Nothing more exquisite can be imagined. The daisies match, and each has its own little bow, and spray of sweet-briar. These dainty things are to be used with pale pink tea-cups, rose-shaped, and with handles in the form of a golden butterfly. The saucers are of pale green, shaped like the petals of a rose. For the 5 o'clock tea there are also plates of rose pink decorated with butterflies.

LUNCHEON NAPKINS.
Luncheon napkins are finished with drawn work and raveled edges and decorated with embroidered mottoes and quotations. Here are a few quotations suitable for this purpose:

"Sweet to the sweets."
"She brought forth butter in a lordly dish."
"A good digestion to you all."
"Eat and make good cheer."
"Welcome ever smiles."
"Herbs and other country meates."
"Eat apples and live forever."
"To show our simple skill."
"We'll all have tea."
"Two lovely berries molded on one stem."
"Farwell goes out sighing."

On each napkin may also be embroidered the flower fitting the quotation, and a decided novelty is the Shakespearean luncheon napkin, wherein the flowers Shakespeare loved, the cowslips, daffodils, pansies, musk roses, "Daisies, pinks and violets blue and lady-smocks all silver white," are worked together with quotations from the immortal bard.

HINTS FOR HOMES.

Too Much Soap—Clothes Washing—When to Fill a Lamp.

Thoughtful people wish to know if we are really better than our ancestors. One positive fact is ascertained—we are certainly cleaner. It is difficult to say that anybody can be too clean, but it is easy to understand that a man can clean himself in the wrong way. Dr. M. Ricketts has discovered a skin affection almost peculiar to women who wash and powder too frequently. There is reason to believe that a considerable burning. Exposure to draughts increases the symptoms. At times there is pain, causing loss of sleep. The real of some American ladies in the practice of the virtue which is next to godliness is marvelous. One is said to have confessed to having applied a well-known cosmetic powder thirteen times in twelve hours, each time after the face had been thoroughly washed with a yet more famous soap. Dr. Ricketts prefers good, pure olive oil from the south of France, applied two or three times a day with some soft silk or linen fabric, to the blandest soap. We feel no surprise at the above information as to the evil effects of too much soap. There is such a thing as using too much water, especially if cold or very hot.

About Washing Clothes.

There is no gain in soaking the clothes at all unless they are very badly soiled. Sort them carefully, putting the fine clothes by themselves and gathering the flannels and colored things apart. Wash the fine things first. Take one piece at a time, dip it in the warm water, soap the soiled part and lay the piece in the bottom of the tub. By the old rule, the clothes were to be

boiled after being submitted to this process. There is a new soap, however, manufactured by Frank Siddals, which obviates the necessity of boiling clothes. When this is used the clothes are allowed to soak after soaping for about twenty minutes, then lightly rubbed and rinsed. There is none of the trouble of managing a boiler and no need for keeping up a roaring fire all day. After rinsing the clothes pass them through the bluing water and then starch the fine pieces. If you use Frank Siddals' soap put a bit of it into the bluing water and a bit into the starch. Boil the starch at least half an hour before using. An hour is better.

In washing flannels use warm water suds and do not rub the flannels on the board. Rinse them in water of the same temperature as the suds and iron them while a little damp.

Sunshine as a Disinfectant.

Half the zymotic disease in the world is the result of damp, dark, and their progeny mould, decay and dirt. Any physician will testify to that. The following quotation from a paper read recently before the American Public Health association by its president, Frederick Mottzambert, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.C. L., of Quebec, ought to be read by every housekeeper in this country.

"Everyone can do a little, if only to make one home or one room bright, more cleanly and more cheerful. Sunshine, pure air, and thorough cleanliness are natural enemies to disease germs. The experiments of Koch, Ransome, and others prove that the living germs of consumption, when exposed to the sunlight, lose their vitality in a few hours, or even in a few minutes, if the layer in which they are exposed be thin enough, and the even ordinary daylight, if it lasts long enough, will have a similar effect. There is no sounder philosophy than the old saying that, 'there is more life in pure air than in a physician's skill.'"

When to Fill a Lamp.
In spite of the many accidents that have happened, some people still persist in filling a lamp at night. Even those who are not guilty of this crowning act of folly think nothing of filling a lamp after dark by the light of a candle. There is always risk in doing this, for the gas from the oil is very volatile and might easily catch fire from the flame of the candle.

Some lamps have a trick of smoking soon after lighting and need to be watched. There is nothing more unpleasant than the unmistakable odor of kerosene smoke, unless it may be the annoyance of depositing the kerosene goods coated with a deposit of lamp black.

One more hint. Never turn down a lamp, allowing it just to gutter. It is meant to burn with the flame at full height, and when allowed to smoulder in this way it will either smoke or smelt—possibly both—and most certainly heat rapidly, and become a distinct source of danger.

The Re-potting of Plants.

Now is a good time to re-pot many varieties from which flowers are expected through the spring season. Wait until you notice a tendency to make new growth. Then shift. If old plants, they may not be large, but they are sure to have fresh soil, or a top dressing of fresh earth. If you do not care to re-pot wholly, dig out as much of the old soil as you can conveniently without turning the plant over, and put new soil in its place. This is easier than to wholly re-pot the plant, and generally answers well, if care is taken to have the soil rich. Do not disturb a plant while it is dormant. If the plants are young, or comparatively so, and a large development of top is desired, it is well to give a size or two larger pot.

A Bit About Baskets.

A general mistake is made about baskets, most people supposing that the white willow basket is the best. It looks best, but it is by no means the strongest. The white willow slips are cut in the fall and kept green all winter by packing their ends in wet sand or water, and when spring comes the bark peels off with a twist of the hand. The buff baskets, on the contrary, are made of the bark of the willow, which have been steamed and then peeled. While no so handsome, they are much stronger, and will wear far longer than the white.

FAMILY SCRAP BOOKS.

Advice for the Sick Room and for House and Home.

Housewives are convinced that kerosene light is the best. Clean piano keys with a soft rag dipped in alcohol.

To clean a black dress, use a sponge dipped in strong black tea, cold. A piece of sponge fastened to a stick is a good thing to clean lamp chimneys with. To take out scorching the article that has been scorched in the bright sunshine. Wipe flatirons on a cloth wet with coal oil and they will not scorch the clothing.

To clean brass gas fixtures rub them with lemon, and then wash them off in hot water.

Oil cloth should be rubbed off with a flannel cloth dipped in sweet milk once a week. Rub well. Take eggs stained from silver by rubbing with a wet rag which has been dipped in common table salt.

In doing up fine lace do not use any starch, but in the last rinsing water sprinkle a little fine white sugar.

About the Sick Room. Let in the sunshine. Breathe all confusion. Cleanliness is the first rule. Make mustard plasters thin. Ask the doctor as to visitors. Don't ask questions of sick people. Wear a clean dress and a bright smile. Flowers are permissible, but never in profusion. Simple surprises are a pleasure to a convalescent patient. Rheumatic patients should lie between woolen sheets. Eat a cracker or two before going into the room of a convalescent. A sandwich of minced raw beefsteak often tempts an invalid. A mustard plaster mixed with the white of an egg will not blister. Watch the ventilation and gauge the temperature by a thermometer. The sick chamber should be plainly furnished and have hanging a candle, weighted with a nail, and made to float in a glass of water. All woollen or similar goods should be removed from the room where contagion is under treatment. Keep Your Head Clean. Keeping the head perfectly clean is a great aid to health. A distinguished physician, who has spent much of his time at

quarantine, said that a person whose head was thoroughly washed every day rarely ever took contagious diseases, but when the hair was allowed to become dirty and matted it was hardly possible to escape infection.

Ever Ready Remedies.
Wet tobacco for bee or wasp stings. For poison of any kind swallow one or two raw eggs. For nausea lay a little pounded ice on the back of the neck. A poultice of bruised potatoes is relief for burns and scalds. A poultice of bruised horseradish on the wrist for neuralgia. Lard applied at once will remove the discoloration of a bruise. A lump of sugar saturated with vinegar will often cure ecchymosis. For poisonous wounds made by insects such as mosquitoes, etc., apply cologne-water.

A wet silk handkerchief, tied without folding over the face, is a complete security against suffocation from smoke; it permits free breathing and at the same time excludes the smoke from the lungs.

To Girls About Eating.
A physician in writing about the health of girls, tells them to eat good, but plain, wholesome, nutritious food, and above all to eat a hearty breakfast. Too many young women have grown up to regard it as vulgar to indulge the appetite at the morning meal, and have been allowed to cultivate the habit of "skipping" and "sipping" at a few dainty dishes, or have been permitted to go without breakfast altogether. He thinks nothing in modern life is more pernicious to the health than this dawdling over the breakfast which often means breakfast.

Popularly called the king of medicine Hood's Sarsaparilla. It conquers scrofula, salt rheum and all other blood diseases.

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But a true beautifier, being the only preparation sold under a positive guarantee of \$1000 that it contains no arsenic or fraction thereof of poisonous or deleterious substance. Indorsed by the most celebrated artists of the lyric and dramatic stage recommended by eminent physicians, pronounced harmless by leading chemists—Weldon's Famous Robertina.

A LITTLE GIRL'S EXPERIENCE IN A LIGHT HOUSE.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorin Prescott are keepers of the government lighthouse at Sand Beach, Mich., and are blessed with a daughter four years old. Last fall, she was taken down with measles, followed with a dreadful cough and turning into a fever. Doctors at home and at Detroit treated her, but in vain. She grew rapidly, until she was a mere "handful of bones." Then she tried Dr. King's New Discovery, and after the use of two and a half bottles was completely cured. They say Dr. King's New Discovery is worth its weight in gold, yet you may get a trial bottle free at A.C. Smith & Co.'s drug store.

BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT.
This Liniment is different in composition from any other Liniment on the market. It is a scientific discovery, which results in giving the most penetrating Liniment ever known. There are numerous ailments, which may be recommended because they pay the seller a great profit. Beware of these and demand Ballard's Snow Liniment. It positively cures Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Wounds, Scalds and Inflammatory Rheumatism, Burns, Scalds, Sores, Erysipelas, Itch, Stiff Joints, Old Sores, Pain in Back, Barb Wire Cuts, Sore Throat, and is especially beneficial in Paralysis. Sold by Z. C. M. I. drug department.

Children Cry for Fitch's CASTORIA.
Castoria is so well adapted to children that I have used it in every case I have known to me. H. A. Anderson, M.D., 111 South Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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"From personal knowledge I can say that Castoria is a most excellent medicine for children." DR. G. C. LOWELL, Mass.

Castoria promotes Digestion, and overcomes Indigestion, Colic, Stomach, Stomach, Diarrhoea, and Feverishness. Thus the child is rendered healthy and its sleep natural. Castoria contains no Morphine or other narcotic property.

If you have a COLD or COUGH, acute or leading to CONSUMPTION, SCOTT'S EMULSION OF PURE COD LIVER OIL AND HYPOPHOSPHITES OF LIME AND SODA.

IS YOUR CURE FOR IT. This preparation contains the simplest and most effective of the Hypophosphites and has been found to be the most palatable as well. Three times as efficacious as plain Cod Liver Oil. A perfect Emulsion, better than any other, and containing all forms of Wasting Diseases, Bronchitis, CONSUMPTION, Scrofula, and as a Flesh Producer. It is sold by all Druggists. Let no one by profuse explanation or impudent entreaty induce you to accept a substitute.

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